



## The Casa Cuna Bi-annual Fundraiser gets a boost from Drive Motors

The Casa Cuna Children's Center in Pos Chiquito was bustling with activity this past Sunday during their bi-annual fundraising fair. Casa Cuna is a very special facility that cares for children from infancy to seven years old that have special needs because of genetic disorders, birth defects, abuse or an unfit home situation. The center works with the Guardianship Foundation and the Department of Social Affairs to offer a loving, structured environment during these formative years.

Sunday's fundraiser was a beehive of activity with rides and games for the kids that could be purchased for one florin, plus lunch and typical carnival treats of cotton candy and raspao, ( snow cones in Papiamento.) There was a free playground, just recently installed and a "Piaso Fastioso," a clown with a show for the children. The popular bands Le Groove and Zoom provided musical background for dancing or cruising the flea market. What particularly drew large crowds to the Casa Cuna fair was also the opportunity to buy a car for charity. Drive Motors, agents for KIA, Mazda, Suzuki and Chrysler had 22 models of sedans, SUV's, Mini-vans and other models in all price ranges. Aruba Bank, Caribbean Mercantile, RBTT Bank and Banco de Caribe also had representatives on hand so prospective buyers could apply for a loan on the spot. Three percent of all car sales will benefit the Casa Cuna Center.

Aside from everything you could buy or eat or win, an information center with booths from the various family assistance organizations and social services of the island was set up inside. Imeldahof, the next step in assisting children from troubled families or with special needs was there along with Family Planning and Fundacion pa Mucha. All offered pamphlets, books and newsletters aimed at helping in the process of becoming parents, and sound advice on being good parents.

Dynamic Casa Cuna Director Charisse Hoen-Daly was at the center of this whirlwind of activity, organizing and expediting a great day with the help of her devoted staff. The last fundraiser brought in 11,000. Florin, but this year they hoped to double that by the end of the day.